

Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4A

February 13, 2023

Commissioner Joan Hoyte presents the following Resolution:

Whereas the District of Columbia Public Library (DCPL) Next Libris: Facilities Master Plan 2021-2130 calls for one new library in Ward 4, and

Whereas DCPL is “gathering community feedback on the possibility of relocating the Juanita E. Thornton/Shepherd Park Library to the new Walter Reed development,” and

Whereas libraries are an essential public service providing direct and indirect benefits to the community, and

Whereas developing a new library or improving an existing one is a significant community event, requiring thoughtful and informed discussion, and

Whereas before the community can understand the consequences of any change, there is a need for a thorough, independent, and knowledgeable analysis of related issues, and

Whereas those issues include current and potential library sites and services, staffing, catchments, access, populations served, facility costs, and

Whereas an analysis should also include the impact on businesses, community planning, transportation, environmental consequences, best practices and

Whereas such study should include a systematic, professional effort to determine community perspectives.

Therefore, Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4A, calls upon the DC Council and Mayor Muriel Bowser as part of their review of the FY2024 Budget:

1. To direct the DCPL or other appropriate agency to conduct a study of the current and proposed upper Ward 4 library services and if the government lacks the capability to perform such a study, then to

contract with an experienced, independent, local planning firm to undertake said study, and

2. The government agency or contractor, whichever conducts the study, to expeditiously report its findings, and
3. The DC City Council and Mayor Muriel Bowser to consult with Advisory Neighborhood Commission 4A on the study's finding before acting on DCPL's Ward 4 Capital Budget.

Adopted by the ANC 4A, February 13, 2023.